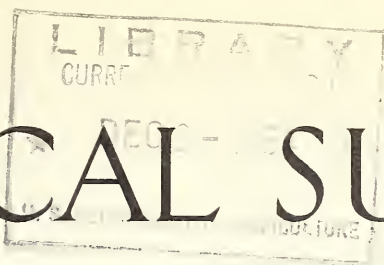


Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1.941
A22st2



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A. Washington, D. C. November 19, 1954..... SS144

1954 Crop Total 6th Largest

Total crop production prospects were slightly higher as of November 1 than a month earlier but about 3 percent less than last year. Although the 1954 total will be relatively large, it has been exceeded in 4 of the previous 6 years. Severe drought in some areas and extensive shifts in land use held output well below 1953 and 1952. Above-normal October rainfall in most northern and North Central States, although causing some delay in harvesting late crops, greatly aided fall seedings of grains and forage crops, revived pastures, and added to soil moisture supplies for next year's crops.

Cotton Prospects Increased During October

Exceptionally favorable October weather in most areas developed late bolls and facilitated harvesting with a minimum of field losses. Better yields than expected resulted in an increase of 695,000 bales, or 5.6 percent, in prospective production, compared with a month earlier. A 1954 cotton crop of 13,206,000 bales is forecast as of November 1--compared with 16,465,000 bales in 1953 and the 10-year average of 12,448,000 bales.

Corn Prospects Down During October

The corn crop is now estimated at 2,939 million bushels, a decrease of 11 million bushels since October 1. Harvest progress in important North Central corn States has been delayed by heavy and continued rains and lagged considerably behind the early completion dates in 1953 and 1952. Corn is well matured and only relatively minor losses, either in quantity or quality, are expected to result from the delay.

Fall-Sown Crops

Prospects for winter wheat and other fall-sown grains on November 1 vary almost directly with the amount and distribution of fall precipitation. Soil moisture supplies are generally favorable and more abundant than a year ago in most northern and northeastern States. Fall-seeded legumes and grasses in these areas have germinated and grown well and are in good condition for winter survival.

Hay and Forage Supplies Adequate

Hay and forage supplies are generally adequate for winter needs in North Atlantic, North Central, and Pacific States. Drought in South Atlantic and South Central States reduced forage growth even below last year's short supply. Western States

also report slightly less roughage than last year. Pastures are good to excellent in most Northern States and in Pacific Coast areas. Critical pasture shortage exists in Southern States from the Atlantic Coast to the Rockies. Central and southern Rocky Mountain areas also have short supplies of feed on winter ranges.

Other Crops--November 1 Estimates

Soybeans--338 mil. bu.--record crop. Harvest mostly completed in some areas, delayed by rains in others.
Grain sorghums--163.4 mil. bu.--up 11% from Oct. 1; up 50% from 1953.
Rice--58.5 mil. bags--down 5% from Oct. 1 estimate but the largest crop on record.
Sugar beets--13.8 mil. tons--14% above 1953; 40% above average. Digging near completion Nov. 1.
Potatoes--347 mil. bu.--7% below 1953; 15% below average. Harvest practically completed by Nov. 1 except in a few scattered areas, despite delaying rains.
Peanuts--1,071 mil. pounds--down 1% from Oct. forecast and 33% below 1953 production.
Beans, dry edible--18.4 mil. bags--down slightly from Oct. 1 forecast, but 1.3% above 1953 production.
Tobacco--2,156 mil. lbs.--5% larger than 1953 crop. Hurricane damaged tobacco barns but tobacco losses were negligible.

Current Indexes for Agriculture

Index Numbers	Base Period	Oct. 1954
Prices received by farmers	1910-14=100	242
Prices paid by farmers, interest, taxes & wage rates	1910-14=100	279
Parity ratio	1910-14=100	87
Farm wage rates.....	1910-14=100	502
Wholesale prices of food.....	1947-49=100	¹ 104
Retail prices of food.....	1947-49=100	¹ 112
Weekly factory earnings	1947-49=100	¹ 138

Production Comparisons

Item	Jan.-Oct. 1953	Jan.-Oct. 1954
Milk, (bil. lb.)	104.0	106.6
Eggs, (bil.)	51.7	54.0
Beef, (dr. wt., mil. lb.)	² 6,795	² 7,192
Pork & lard, (mil. lb.)	² 6,976	² 6,735
Lamb & mutton, (dr. wt., mil. lb.)	² 471	² 482
All meats, (dr. wt., mil. lb.).....	² 14,864	² 15,090

¹September figures.
²January-September under Federal inspection.

Fruits and Nuts

Deciduous fruit production in 1954 will be about 2 percent larger than in 1953, although 6 percent below average. Larger crops of apples, pears, grapes, and prunes have been produced than last year, but smaller crops of peaches, cherries, plums and apricots.

Of the citrus fruits, oranges for the 1954-55 season are expected to exceed last season's crop, but grapefruit volume will be slightly smaller. Lemon harvests are expected to be 12 percent less than last season, but above average.

Production of tree nuts is expected to be 14 percent less than last year. Increases in almonds, walnuts, and filberts are more than offset by the much smaller pecan crop.

Total Food and Feed Grains

Production of more than 152 million tons of the 8 food and feed grains is second lowest in the 7-year period beginning with 1948, but was exceeded only twice before that date.

Oct. 1, 1954, Stocks in all Positions

<u>Food grains</u>	<u>Mil. bu.</u>	
Wheat	1,682.0	Largest of record; 50% above average.
Rye	32.5	57% above year earlier.
<u>Feed grains</u>		
Corn	918.2	Largest carryover; 19% over Oct. 1953.
Oats	1,305.6	More than 1/5 above year earlier.
Barley	354.1	Largest in 12 years of record.
Sorghum grain	22.0	3 times as large as a year ago.
4 feed grains		55.7 million tons; largest by far in the 8 years of record.
<u>Oilseeds</u>		
Soybeans	1.3	Smallest in 13 years of record.
Flaxseed	38.3	Slightly below average.

Milk Consumption Study

"Changing Patterns of Milk Consumption in Memphis, Tenn." (Marketing Research Report No. 69, AMS) reports on use patterns for milk in Memphis and on the underlying economic and psychological factors. Information was wanted that would help the milk industry to evaluate consumers' reaction to price drops and advertising. Although the study was made in Memphis some of the findings may be helpful in other markets.

Fewer Workers Employed on Farms

Farm employment in late October dropped about a million and a quarter from a month earlier to a total of 9,973,000. Of this number, 7,484,000 were family workers and 2,489,000 were hired workers. The decrease was greater than usual for each type of workers and was partly due to a more advanced cotton harvest than usual.

Milk Production Record High for October

Milk production during October was the highest for the month in 25 years of record--1 percent above last year's previous high and 5 percent above average for the month. Mild, open October weather and improved pasture feed in many areas lessened the usual seasonal production decline.

October Egg Production A New High Record

Farm poultry flocks again established a new egg production record for October, 9 percent more than October 1953 and 38 percent above average. October production totaled 4,994 million eggs compared with 4,600 million in October 1953.

The Food Dollar

"The Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Food Dollar," Leaflet No. 123, AMS, gives some answers to farmers' questions about why their prices vary so much between products and why they vary so much more than prices at retail. Consumers can

Prices Received and Prices Paid by Farmers Index Numbers, 1910-14=100

Item	Oct. 15, 1953	Sept. 15, 1954	Oct. 15, 1954
Prices received by farmers.....	249	246	242
Crops.....	229	247	243
Food grains.....	223	233	235
Feed grains and hay.....	194	210	204
Tobacco.....	439	444	441
Cotton.....	275	292	293
Fruit.....	189	248	218
Coml. veg. for fresh mkt.....	198	170	191
Oil-bearing crops.....	255	276	275
Livestock and products.....	266	245	242
Meat animals.....	273	277	267
Dairy products.....	282	253	263
Poultry and eggs.....	234	162	153
Prices paid by farmers:			
All commodities.....	258	263	262
Commodities used in living.....	270	273	273
Commodities used in production.....	1245	251	250
All commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates.....	276	280	279
Parity ratio (prices received to prices paid by farmers).....	90	88	87

¹Revised.

Parity Prices for Farm Products and Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity and unit	Average price		Parity price
	Sept. 15, 1954	Oct. 15, 1954	Oct. 15, 1954
Wheat, bu..... dol.	2.07	2.08	2.47
Corn, bu..... dol.	1.53	1.45	1.79
Peanuts, lb..... ct.	11.4	11.6	13.4
Cotton, Amer. upland, lb..... ct.	34.55	34.67	34.60
Potatoes, bu..... dol.	1.16	.932	1.49
Hogs, 100 lb..... dol.	19.70	18.40	20.50
Beef cattle, 100 lb..... dol.	16.10	15.80	20.90
Calves, 100 lb..... dol.	15.80	16.00	23.10
Lambs, 100 lb..... dol.	17.80	17.60	22.80
Butterfat, lb..... ct.	55.8	56.9	73.9
Milk, wholesale, 100 lb..... dol.	4.12	4.33	4.69
Chickens, live, lb..... ct.	19.2	17.5	29.6
Eggs, doz..... ct.	33.8	32.4	46.3

¹Preliminary.

find out why their food costs so much, and why food prices often show little change when farmers' prices go down.

About Same Number Cattle on Feed as Year Earlier

At the end of October indications were that the number of cattle to be placed on feed this feeding season will be about the same or slightly larger than a year earlier. Increases in cattle feeding are expected in some of the leading Corn Belt States and in most of the Western States. Decreases are likely in the Northern Corn Belt and in Missouri and Kansas. The average price of feeder steers per hundred pounds at 8 markets during October was \$18.82 compared with \$16.16 for the same month a year earlier.

Peanut Supply 12% Below Year Ago

The supply of peanuts on September 30, excluding stocks on farms and shelled oil stock, totaled 317.6 million pounds of equivalent farmers' stock (unshelled, uncleaned) peanuts. This is 12 percent less than a year earlier but larger than any other year since 1940. CCC stocks totaled 14.3 million pounds, compared with 132.3 million pounds a year earlier.

Dairy and Poultry Products--September 1954

Item	September 1954	Percentage change--	
		Sept. 1954 from Sept. 1953	Jan. - Sept. 1954 from Jan. - Sept. 1953
	Millions	Percent	Percent
Chicks hatched ¹	98.7	+14	+8
Chicks placed ²	54.4	+13	+8
Poulters hatched: ¹	Thous.		
Heavy breeds.....	27	+145	+8
Light breeds	646	+46	+20
Turkey breeders tested:			
Heavy breeds.....	124	³ +24	³ +49
Light breeds	67	³ -30	³ +12
Poultry canned	1,000 lb. 15,873	+37	+24
Production:			
Liquid egg.....	9,752	+21	+14
Dried egg (egg solids)	953	-34	+23
Frozen egg.....	7,132	+10	+5
Evaporated whole milk.....	188,000	+10	0
Dry nonfat milk solids (for human food).....	55,100	-4	+12
Butter, creamery	92,555	-3	+5
Cheese, American	68,775	-8	+1
Ice cream	1,000 gal. 53,630	-5	-3

¹By commercial hatcheries.

²13 principal producing areas.

³July-Sept.

CURRENT ESTIMATES

Correction

The State income figures in the October 1954 issue represented July 1954 figures--not June.

Note

August 1954 estimates of cash receipts from farm marketings by States were published in the Farm Income Situation, October 1954.

Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings, by States, September 1954^{1 2}

State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine	8,701	3,314	12,015
New Hampshire	5,068	1,327	6,395
Vermont	7,473	1,006	8,479
Massachusetts	10,600	7,394	17,994
Rhode Island.....	1,444	936	2,380
Connecticut.....	9,487	3,839	13,326
New York	46,062	41,215	87,277
New Jersey.....	18,283	13,064	31,347
Pennsylvania	47,356	19,217	66,573
North Atlantic	154,474	91,312	245,786
Ohio.....	61,126	38,214	99,340
Indiana	69,823	35,404	105,227
Illinois	90,841	107,336	198,177
Michigan	30,570	33,628	64,198
Wisconsin.....	65,176	17,061	82,237
East North Central	317,536	231,643	549,179
Minnesota	62,745	42,054	104,799
Iowa.....	152,470	30,780	183,250
Missouri	64,859	45,160	110,019
North Dakota	12,239	41,379	53,618
South Dakota.....	23,678	31,008	54,686
Nebraska	48,834	39,005	87,839
Kansas	46,357	70,810	117,167
West North Central	411,182	300,196	711,378
Delaware	5,167	2,328	7,495
Maryland	13,724	6,691	20,415
Virginia.....	23,329	18,050	41,379
West Virginia	9,296	2,470	11,766
North Carolina	18,892	216,141	235,033
South Carolina	8,342	63,832	72,174
Georgia	22,756	45,456	68,212
Florida.....	11,501	5,040	16,541
South Atlantic	113,007	360,008	473,015
Kentucky.....	25,730	4,781	30,511
Tennessee.....	19,746	31,966	51,712
Alabama	12,712	41,821	54,533
Mississippi	12,635	65,752	78,387
Arkansas	14,509	63,307	77,816
Louisiana.....	9,486	51,594	61,080
Oklahoma	28,906	21,522	50,428
Texas	65,214	143,960	209,174
South Central	188,938	424,703	613,641
Montana	16,850	23,474	40,324
Idaho.....	12,499	29,475	41,974
Wyoming	15,133	2,691	17,824
Colorado	27,005	15,376	42,381
New Mexico.....	7,684	7,355	15,039
Arizona	6,390	10,559	16,949
Utah	11,180	5,603	16,783
Nevada	5,743	762	6,505
Washington	15,055	66,028	81,083
Oregon.....	15,945	45,647	61,592
California	74,055	138,197	212,252
Western.....	207,539	345,167	552,706
United States	1,392,676	1,753,029	3,145,705

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month.

²For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts From Farming, United States¹

Source	Sept. 1954	Oct. 1954 ²
	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Farm marketings and CCC loans ³	3,146	3,600
Livestock and products.....	1,393	1,500
Meat animals.....	791	
Dairy products.....	326	
Poultry and eggs.....	260	
Other.....	16	
Crops.....	1,753	2,100
Food grains.....	357	
Feed crops.....	186	
Cotton (lint and seed).....	440	
Oil-bearing crops.....	131	
Tobacco.....	231	
Vegetables.....	175	
Fruits and tree nuts.....	124	
Other.....	109	
Government payments.....	12	
Total cash receipts.....	3,158	

¹For comparisons for cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

²Preliminary.

³Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Marketing Margin and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Marketing margin	Farmer's share
1953 average.....	\$1,002	\$452	\$550	45%
1953--Sept.....	1,013	460	553	45
1954--Aug.....	989	430	559	43
Sept. ³	980	416	564	42

¹Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

³Preliminary.

For comparisons with earlier months and years see The Marketing and Transportation Situation.

Farm production: Index Numbers of Total Output, Gross Production of Livestock and Crops, by Groups, and Related Indexes, United States

(1947-49 = 100)

Item	1951-53	1953	Indicated 1954 ²
Farm output.....	106	108	107
All livestock and products ³	112	114	119
Meat animals.....	114	114	120
Dairy products.....	102	106	108
Poultry and eggs.....	123	127	133
All crops ⁴	102	103	100
Feed grains.....	100	101	102
Hay and forage.....	107	107	111
Food grains.....	94	96	82
Vegetables.....	97	100	96
Fruits and nuts.....	102	100	107
Sugar crops.....	98	107	116
Cotton.....	109	115	93
Tobacco.....	110	102	107
Oil crops.....	104	101	115
Feed used by farm horses and mules ⁵	65	57	51
Cropland used.....	100	100	100
Crop production per acre ⁶	102	103	100
Animal units of breeding livestock ⁷	104	103	107
Livestock production per breeding unit ⁷	108	111	111

Prepared jointly by Agricultural Research Service and Agricultural Marketing Service.

¹For historical data and explanation of indexes, see "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency," PERB 3, ARS.

²Indications for 1954 based on November 1954 "Crop Production" report and other releases of the Agricultural Estimates Division, AMS.

³Includes minor livestock products not included in the separate groups shown.

⁴Includes production of some miscellaneous crops not in separate groups shown.

⁵Hay and concentrates only. Not included in farm output.

⁶Index of crop production per acre is a ratio of total crop production to total land used for crops. It differs from the AMS index of yields per harvested acre of 28 crops.

⁷Animal units and production exclude horses and mules.

GPO 883779

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Washington 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Penalty for private use to avoid
payment of postage \$300

(GPO)